



DSA BULLETIN 07-04

Issued: December 10, 2007

Effective: January 2, 2008

To: DSA Staff and Interested Parties

From: Division of the State Architect
Department of General Services
State of California

Subject: Notice to Stakeholders: DSA Stop Work Order for Unauthorized Automatic Fire Sprinkler System (AFSS) Installations

Purpose: The purpose of this bulletin is to announce that DSA will begin the process of issuing a Stop Work Order for Automatic Fire Sprinkler Systems that are being installed without approved plans.

Scope: This bulletin applies to K-12 public schools and community colleges under the jurisdiction of the Division of the State Architect (DSA).

Background: DSA has observed an increase in instances where Automatic Fire Sprinkler System installations are begun without approved plans. Failure to design and install these systems correctly could compromise the structural integrity of the building creating a danger to public safety and may not correctly operate in the event of fire.

For these reasons DSA has determined that the installation of the AFSS without DSA approved plans, constitutes an unacceptable safety hazard to the occupants and should not be allowed.

Effective Date: DSA will be increasing its efforts regarding field inspection of AFSS installations on January 2, 2008

- 1. Procedure:** Per the California Administrative Code (CAC) Title 24, Part 1, Plans submitted to DSA for projects that are required by the CBC and/or the CFC to have an Automatic Fire Suppression System shall include, as part of the original submittal or deferred submittal, complete AFSS plans, details, (including details of the structural supports for the system) and hydraulic calculations, with current water supply information. DSA approved stamped AFSS plans shall be available on site prior to start of the system installation. If, during the course of observation and inspection of construction, it is determined that Automatic Fire Sprinklers are being installed without DSA approved plans, DSA may begin the process for stopping work of construction (See DSA [IR A-13](#) – Stop Work and Order to Comply).

2. Resources:

- 2.1** An [Automatic Fire Sprinkler Plan Submittal Guideline](#) is now available on the DSA Web site. This document defines the specific information required with the submittal of AFSS Plans, hydraulic calculations and specifications.
Note: *Incomplete or missing information on plans is the #1 reason for non-approvals and consequent delays.*
- 2.2** The procedure for stopping work is provided in IR A-13 – Stop Work and Order to Comply, which can be found on the DSA website at <http://www.dsa.ca.gov>, Publications page.
- 2.3** When the corrections to the AFSS plans are minor in nature and will not impact the structural supports or the hydraulic calculation/water supply requirements, an in person back-check may be granted by the local DSA Regional Office.